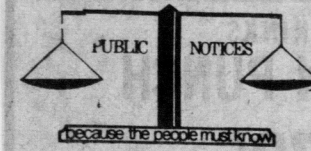


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Carbondale (Pa.) News, Wednesday, September 12, 1984



LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Carbondale will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, September 26, 1984, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss the proposed 1985 Capital Budget and Capital Improvements Program for the City of Carbondale. The public is invited to attend. The proposal may be reviewed in the Office of the Managing Director and written comments will be accepted in his office weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. prior to the hearing.

SUMMARY OF THE 1985 CAPITAL BUDGET

The City's objective is to revitalize all segments of the community, and provide for improved government services, attract new business and industry, and to improve the various neighborhoods and community facilities. The proposed Capital Program and Budget for 1985 includes expenditures for the following program areas:

Industrial & Commercial Development	\$140,000.00
Road Improvements	40,000.00
Engineering, Zoning, and Planning	15,000.00
Traffic Signal	15,000.00
Maintenance	15,000.00
Administrative and Fiscal Management	8,000.00
Parks and Recreation	25,000.00
City Hall Renovations	29,000.00
Department of Public Works	30,000.00
Police Protection	18,000.00
Fire Protection	2,000.00
Capital Reserve	-0-
1985 Capital Budget Total	\$322,500.00

Robert J. Davis
Managing Director
City of Carbondale
Sept. 12
Sept. 19

← This is a victory for the historic preservation movement in Carbondale. This will be the first time in a long long while that the City has spent a Cent on City Hall.

'Capital Improvements' cut by one-quarter

Carbondale's six-year, \$2,526,000 "Capital Improvements Program" the brainchild of Robert J. Davis, Managing Director, has been revised to become a one-year, \$322,500 program—at least for the time being.

It's still a six-year program, Davis explained. "It's just that now, the program will be presented to council one year at a time." For the program, which calls for a comprehensive program of expenditures and improvements for the city, to be implemented, it must first be approved by City Council.

Davis said that the change was made in order to insure "the ultimate success of the overall program," adding, "We have a better chance of getting the program approved if we do it on a year-by-year basis." At this time, only the proposal for 1985 has been written.

Another major change in the program involves the amount of money budgeted, and the means for generating that money. The original Capital Improvements program called for a 1985 budget of \$430,000. The amount of the revised 1985 budget, \$322,500, represents a decrease of \$107,500, or 25 percent. Funding for the program, originally supposed to be generated by a one-percent wage-tax increase, will now require a wage-tax increase of just three-fourths percent, or a property tax increase of 25.8 mills.

"The plan has been trimmed to reflect the absolute minimum level of service necessary to provide for a comprehensive approach for meeting the needs of the city," Davis said. "At the same time, (it allows) the city to secure additional grant funding assistance for the many projects outlined in the original capital budget proposal."

A 25 percent decrease in the capital budget was accomplished by reducing the budgeted amount in all but one of the plan's 11 categories. "Industrial and Commercial Development" was the only area not experiencing a reduction in budget

from the original plan. The \$140,000 amount originally budgeted remains the same.

"Capital Reserve" was the hardest-hit area of the budget. The \$6,000 originally budgeted for the fund has been completely eliminated. The consequences of the elimination of the capital reserve fund, said Davis, are that the city lacks "additional funds for cost overruns or price increases."

"Police Protection" is another area to suffer a significant reduction in budget. Because the original \$37,000 earmarked for police protection has been reduced more than 50 percent of \$18,000, the city will only be able to purchase one new police car next year, instead of the two as outlined in Davis' original proposal. Other police equipment purchases scheduled for 1985 include one mobile radio and three portable radios.

Also hard hit by the change in proposals is the area of "Parks and Recreational Improvements," which suffers a decrease of \$25,000 from the \$45,000 originally budgeted. This amounts to a reduction of more than 44 percent. Davis says the most significant result of the reduction is "the potential loss of approximately \$60,000 in state and federal grant assistance."

While it does not suffer a significant loss in terms of actual dollar amount, "Fire Protection" will be cut 50 percent from the \$4,000 amount budgeted in the original program. Davis explained that the change will represent "a curtailment of 50 percent in the amount of modernization work done on existing fire hydrants."

The "Public Works Improvements" section of the proposal experiences a \$20,000—40 percent—drop in available funds between the two programs. This means that instead of two new trucks which can be used as snowplows, the city will only be able to purchase one in 1985. A reduction of approximately 40

percent is also being made in the area of "City Hall Renovations," where the \$50,000 originally budgeted has been slashed to \$29,500. "This also can mean the potential loss of approximately \$40,000 to \$60,000 in outside private and public matching and outright grant assistance," according to Davis. Perhaps just as significantly, Davis' original plan said that if the city does not spend substantial amounts of money on City Hall Renovations soon, the city may be forced to begin construction of a new municipal building. Davis wrote, in his original proposal would require a considerably larger expenditure than would repairs to city hall.

Less hard hit, but still experiencing a cutback, is the category of "Road Improvements," which was cut 20 percent to \$40,000. According to Davis, this will result in only the more critical streets being paved in 1985.

Cut 25 percent was the area of "Engineering, Planning and Zoning," which now has available only \$15,000 "to contract for professional engineering services and planning assistance," Davis said. The city is hoping to make up the \$5,000 difference between the amount in the original proposal and that in the revised program through an unspecified "outside source."

"Traffic Signal Maintenance" has experienced a 17 percent cut from its original figure of \$18,000. Davis said he expects the reduction in funds here to have little effect on the proposed program of comprehensive replacement of traffic controls.

Finally, "Administrative and Fiscal Improvements" has been cut 20 percent to \$8,000. This is another area which is not likely to experience a significant change from Davis' original proposal.

A public hearing on the revised 1985 Capital Improvements Program is scheduled for 7 p.m., Wednesday, September 26, in the council chambers, City Hall.

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was familiar with Capote's work, and (2) that he thought of the film and the relationship entre Sookie (played by Geraldine Page) and Buddy (played by Donnie Melvin) as he and I went about baking bread and John discovered that I do not have a stove. The parallels entre the relationship between Sookie/Buddy and SRP/JOB are many, and I was very pleased that John recognized them, consciously or not. While waiting for the final raising of the bread, I asked JOB: "How would you like to take your dear old friend for a 20-minute motorcycle ride?" JOB: "Let's go." No suggestion in one that gave JOB a great deal of pleasure, & SRP was very pleased with the enthusiastic response by JOB. We drove around Elk Mountain, making a stop at Grumpy's (which I wanted to show John). We passed by the Suberwies farm (where JOB's grandfather was raised) and also the Dave Adam residence ("Mount Vernon") and also the school house on the West Clifford road where JOB's grandfather went to school. Very enjoyable ride. When we returned, JOB's fingers were quite cold and I turned on the kerosene heater and he warmed up. I went about putting the bread into the toaster oven, and before it was finished, JOB announced that he had to leave to be home in time for supper. He hung around a bit waiting for the bread to finish, but it could not be speeded up. He took his leave — "beep, beep" in the usual manner, and that was that. Following JOB's departure, I worked for several hours on organizing my filing cabinets: a gargantuan job and one that I must work on daily if I am ever to get it accomplished/finished.

6-830PM — JOB at EBC; he gave me the beautiful gray aly Cassini shoulder bag that I now carry; JOB brought with him his family chart/history, a copy of which is given on 09-13-1984. When John arrived I was baking bread and we talked about bread baking and the next thing I saw John brought up Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory", and started to quote the film. I was very pleased (1) that JOB